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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/764,618	01/17/2001	George Likourezos	1002	7876

7590 10/07/2004

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EXAMINER

GRAHAM, CLEMENT B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3628

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/764,618

Applicant(s)

LIKOUREZOS ET AL.

Examiner

Clement B Graham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/17/2001, 4/12/2001, 8/9/2001, 8/27/2001
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-5, 13-14, 19-23, 28-29, 30-31, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bogosian et al (Hereinafter Bogosian U.S Patent 6,760, 470).

As per claim 1, Bogosian discloses a method for effecting payment for a purchaser of at least one item offered for an electronic auction sale by a seller via an electronic auction web site maintained by at least one computing device, said method comprising the steps of (see column 12 lines 65 and column 13 line 1-35) debiting. (i. e, "charges the buyer credit card") an electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser. (i. e, buyer") of the at least one item. (see column 5 lines 17-55) where the electronic auction payment account is configured for storing funds therein. (see column 4 lines 25-60) and capable of being configured for automatically having funds transferred thereto from at least one source corresponding to the purchaser

of the at least one item offered for the electronic auction sale. (see column 5 lines 17-55) and crediting at least one account corresponding to the seller to effect payment for the at least one item offered for the electronic auction sale via the electronic auction web site. (see column 5 lines 19-55).

As per claim 2, Bogosian discloses further comprising the step of maintaining a plurality of electronic auction payment accounts corresponding to potential users of the electronic auction web site, wherein the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts includes the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser of the at least one item and an electronic auction payment account corresponding to the seller.(see column 5 lines 19-55).

As per claim 3, Bogosian discloses wherein the at least one credited account corresponding to the seller includes at least the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the seller. (see column 5 lines 19-55).

As per claim 4, Bogosian discloses further comprising the step of receiving authorization from the purchaser of the at least one item to debit the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser of the at least one item and to credit the at least one account corresponding to the seller prior to the steps of debiting the purchaser's electronic auction payment account and crediting the at least one account corresponding to the seller.

As per claim 5, Bogosian discloses wherein the steps of debiting and crediting are performed in real-time. ("i. e, automatically"). (see column 5 lines 35-55).

As per claim 13, Bogosian discloses further comprising the step of retaining, by an operator of the at least one computing device, a percentage.("i. e, "transaction fee") of funds debited from the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser.("i. e, buyer") of the at least one item prior to crediting the at least one account corresponding to the seller.(13 lines 47-57).

As per claim 14, Bogosian discloses a system for effecting payment for a purchaser of at least one item offered for an electronic auction sale by a seller via an electronic auction web site maintained by at least one computing device, said system comprising:

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means for maintaining a plurality of electronic auction payment accounts corresponding to potential users of the electronic auction web site. (see column 5 lines 17-55 and column 4 lines 25-60) and where the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts are configured for storing funds therein and capable of being configured upon receiving respective inputs from the potential users for automatically having funds transferred thereto from respective sources corresponding to the potential users and the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts include an electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser of the at least one item offered for the electronic auction sale(see column 5 lines 17-55 and column 4 lines 25-60) and an electronic auction payment account corresponding to the seller means for debiting the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser of the at least one item offered for the electronic auction sale(see column 5 lines 17-55 and column 4 lines 25-60) and means for crediting at least one account corresponding to the seller to effect payment for the at least one item. (see column 5 lines 17-55 and column 4 lines 25-60).

As per claim 19, Bogosian discloses further comprising means for retaining a percentage of funds debited from the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser of the at least one item prior to crediting the at least one account corresponding to the seller.(see column 5 lines 17-55).

As per claim 20, Bogosian discloses wherein the means for debiting and the means for crediting debit the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser of the at least one item and credit the at least one account corresponding to the seller, respectively, in real-time. ("i. e, automatically"). (see column 5 lines 35-55).

As per claim 21, Bogosian discloses a payment system for effecting payment to a seller of at least one item offered for an electronic auction sale via an electronic auction web site and won by a winning bidder at the conclusion of the electronic auction sale, said payment system comprising:

a database containing a plurality of electronic auction payment accounts, where the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts are configured for storing funds therein, and where one of the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts corresponds to the

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winning bidder of the at least one item and one of the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts corresponds to the seller.(see column 5 lines 17-55).

and a computing device including application software for automatically effecting payment to the seller by accessing the database and debiting the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the winning bidder of the at least one item and crediting at least one account corresponding to the seller without any intervention by the winning bidder following the conclusion of the electronic auction. (see column 5 lines 17-55).

As per claim 22, Bogosian discloses wherein the computing device debits the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the winning bidder of the at least one item and credits the at least one account corresponding to the seller in real time. ("i.e, automatically"). (see column 5 lines 17-55).

As per claim 23, Bogosian discloses wherein the computing device further includes application software for automatically effecting payment to an operator of the electronic auction web site using at least funds debited from the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the winning bidder of the at least one item. (see column 5 lines 35-55).

As per claim 28, Bogosian discloses a payment system for effecting payment for at least one of a plurality of online auction registered users, said payment system comprising:

a database containing information corresponding to a plurality of accounts of the plurality of online auction registered users.(see column 4 lines 25-60 and column 5 lines 17-55) and a computing device including application software for periodically effecting payment for the at least one of the plurality of online auction registered users by debiting an account of the plurality of accounts and crediting at least one account, wherein the debited account corresponds to the at least one online auction registered user. (see column 4 lines 25-60 and column 5 lines 17-55) .

As per claim 29, Bogosian discloses wherein application software periodically effects payment for the at least one of the plurality of online auction registered users

without any intervention by the at least one online auction registered user. (see column 4 lines 25-60 and column 5 lines 17-55) .

As per claim 30, Bogosian discloses a payment system for effecting payment to an operator of an online auction web site,. said payment system comprising:
a database containing information corresponding to a plurality of accounts of. a plurality of online auction registered users.(see column 4 lines 25-60 and column 5 lines 17-55)
and a computing device including application software for automatically effecting payment for at least one of the plurality of online auction registered users by debiting an account of the plurality of accounts and crediting at least one account corresponding to the operator.(see column 5 lines 17-55) wherein the debited account corresponds to the at least one online auction registered user. (see column 4 lines 25-60 and column 5 lines 17-55).

As per claim 31, Bogosian discloses wherein application software automatically effects payment for the at least one of the plurality of online auction registered users without any intervention by the at least one online auction registered user. (see column 4 lines 25-60 and column 5 lines 17-55).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 6-12, 15-18, 24-27, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bogosian et al (Hereinafter Bogosian U.S Patent 6,760, 470).

As per claim 6, Bogosian fail to explicitly teach further comprising the steps of determining if there are sufficient funds in the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser of the at least one item to effect payment, and loaning funds to effect payment, if their are not sufficient funds in the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchase of the at least one item. .

However determining if there are sufficient funds in the payment account corresponding to the buyer to effect payment and loaning funds to effect payment, if there are not sufficient funds in the electronic auction payment accounts corresponding to at least one buyer of at least one item is old ad well known in the art because in an attempt to use a credit card to pay for an item the system would have determine if the card has sufficient funds order to effect payment and loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit card to pay for the items the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include determining if there are sufficient funds in the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser of the at least one item to effect payment, and loaning funds to effect payment, if there are not sufficient funds in the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchase of the at least one item because in an attempt to use a credit card to pay for an item the system would have determine if the card has sufficient funds order to effect payment and loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit card to pay for the items the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card.

As per claim 7, Bogosian fail to explicitly teach further comprising the step of charging interest for loaning funds to effect payment.

However charging interest for loaning funds to effect payment is old ad well known in the art because loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit card to pay for the items the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card and interest is normally charge against the credit card.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include charging interest for loaning funds to effect payment because loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit card to pay for the items

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the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card and interest is normally charge against the credit card.

.As per claim 8, Bogosian discloses debiting the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser of the at least one item.(see column 5 lines 35-55).

Bogosian fail to explicitly teach further comprising the steps of determining if the purchaser of the at least one item has indicated a purchase of insurance and/or for a personal guarantee for the at least one item and for an amount of funds to cover the purchase of insurance and/or for the personal guarantee for the at least one item purchased, if the purchaser of the at least one item has indicated the purchase of insurance and or for the personal guarantee for the at least one item.

However when making a payment to purchase of an item via the internet such things as personal guarantee and shipping insurance are optional, and would have been decision of the buyer, and further it would have been obvious should the buyer decides to acquire personal guarantee and/or shipping insurance these additional fees would have been included in the total cost and that total cost would have been deducted from the buyer account.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include determining if the purchaser of the at least one item has indicated a purchase of insurance and/or for a personal guarantee for the at least one item and for an amount of funds to cover the purchase of insurance and/or for the personal guarantee for the at least one item purchased, if the purchaser of the at least one item has indicated the purchase of insurance and or for the personal guarantee for the at least one item because when making a payment to purchase of an item via the internet such things as personal guarantee and shipping insurance are optional, and would have been decision of the buyer, and further it would have been obvious should the buyer decides to acquire personal guarantee and/or shipping insurance these additional fees would have been included in the total cost and that total cost would have been deducted from the buyer account.

As per claim 9, Bogosian discloses further comprising the step of retaining, by an operator of the at least one computing device, a portion of the amount of funds debited as a service fee.(i. e, "transaction fees") for the purchase of insurance and/or for the personal guarantee for the at least one item.(see column 13 lines 47-55).

As per claim 10, Bogosian fail to explicitly teach further comprising the step of initiating the investment of funds corresponding to at least one of the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts.

However investment of funds corresponding to at least one of the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts is old and well known in the art because it is common for customers to have investment for example with various investment corporations, and a customer having an investment or not would not have prevented a customer from purchasing and paying for an item.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include of initiating the investment of funds corresponding to at least one of the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts because it is common for customers to have investment for example with various investment corporations, and a customer having an investment or not would not have prevented a customer from purchasing and paying for an item.

As per claim 11, Bogosian fail to explicitly teach further comprising the steps of allocating a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds to the at least one o the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts; and retaining, by an operator of the at least one computing device, a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds.

However allocating a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds to the at least one o the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts and retaining, by an operator of the at least one computing device, a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds is old and well known in the art because it is common for customers to have investment for example with various investment corporations, and when there is an investment gain the investment corporation would retained a portion or percentage of

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those gains, further a customer having an investment or not would not have prevented a customer from purchasing and paying for an item.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include allocating a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds to the at least one or the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts and retaining, by an operator of the at least one computing device, a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds because it is common for customers to have investment for example with various investment corporations, and a customer having an investment or not would not have prevented a customer from purchasing and paying for an item.

As per claim 12, Bogosian fail to explicitly teach further comprising the step of issuing checks to at least one potential user having a corresponding electronic auction payment account.

However issuing checks to at least one potential user having a corresponding electronic auction payment account would have only been possible if the checks issued to the potential user is affiliated with the auction payment account or a new account which was opened, and issuing checks to a potential user or not would not have prevented the auction system from performing its true function.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include issuing checks to at least one potential user having a corresponding electronic auction payment account would have only been possible if the checks issued to the potential user is affiliated with the auction payment account or a new account which was opened, and issuing checks to a potential user or not would not have prevented the auction system from performing its true function.

As per claim 15, Bogosian fail to explicitly teach further comprising the means for determining if there are sufficient funds in the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser of the at least one item to effect payment, and means for loaning funds to effect payment, if there are not sufficient funds in the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchase of the at least one item.

However determining if there are sufficient funds in the payment account corresponding to the buyer to effect payment and loaning funds to effect payment, if there are not sufficient funds in the electronic auction payment accounts corresponding to at least one buyer of at least one item is old ad well known in the art because in an attempt to use a credit card to pay for an item the system would have determine if the card has sufficient funds order to effect payment and loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit card to pay for the items the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include means for determining if there are sufficient funds in the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchaser of the at least one item to effect payment, and means for loaning funds to effect payment, if there are not sufficient funds in the electronic auction payment account corresponding to the purchase of the at least one item because in an attempt to use a credit card to pay for an item the system would have determine if the card has sufficient funds order to effect payment and loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit card to pay for the items the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card.

As per claim 16, Bogosian fail to explicitly teach further comprising the step of means for charging interest for loaning funds to effect payment.

However charging interest for loaning funds to effect payment is old ad well known in the art because loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit card to pay for the items the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card and interest is normally charge against the credit card.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include means for charging interest for loaning funds to effect payment because loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit

card to pay for the items the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card and interest is normally charge against the credit card.

As per claim 17, Bogosian fail to explicitly teach further comprising the step of initiating the investment of funds corresponding to at least one of the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts.

However investment of funds corresponding to at least one of the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts is old and well known in the art because it is common for customers to have investment for example with various investment corporations, and a customer having an investment or not would not have prevented a customer from purchasing and paying for an item.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include of initiating the investment of funds corresponding to at least one of the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts because it is common for customers to have investment for example with various investment corporations, and a customer having an investment or not would not have prevented a customer from purchasing and paying for an item.

As per claim 18, Bogosian fail to explicitly teach further comprising the means of allocating a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds to the at least one o the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts; and retaining, by an operator of the at least one computing device, a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds.

However allocating a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds to the at least one o the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts and retaining, by an operator of the at least one computing device, a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds. is old and well known in the art because it is common for customers to have investment for example with various investment corporations, and when there is an investment gain the investment corporation would retained a portion or percentage of those gains, further a customer having an investment or not would not have prevented a customer from purchasing and paying for an item.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include allocating a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds to the at least one o the plurality of electronic auction payment accounts and retaining, by an operator of the at least one computing device, a percentage of funds gained by investing the funds because it is common for customers to have investment for example with various investment corporations, and a customer having an investment or not would not have prevented a customer from purchasing and paying for an item.

As per claim 24, Bogosian discloses a method for automatically effecting payment for a user of an electronic auction web site, said method comprising the steps of debiting the payment account corresponding to the user of the electronic auction web site and crediting at least one account to effect payment for the user of the electronic auction web site and if there are sufficient funds in the payment account corresponding to the user to effect payment. (see column 5 lines 17-55).

Bogosian fail to explicitly teach determining if there are sufficient funds in a payment account corresponding to the user of the electronic auction web site to effect payment loaning funds if there are not sufficient funds in the payment account corresponding to the user of the electronic auction web site.

However determining if there are sufficient funds in the payment account corresponding to the buyer to effect payment and loaning funds to effect payment, if there are not sufficient funds in the electronic auction payment accounts corresponding to at least one buyer of at least one item is old ad well known in the art because in an attempt to use a credit card to pay for an item the system would have determine if the card has sufficient funds order to effect payment and loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit card to pay for the items the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include determining if there are sufficient funds in a payment account corresponding to the user of the electronic auction web site to effect

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payment loaning funds if there are not sufficient funds in the payment account corresponding to the user of the electronic auction web site because in an attempt to use a credit card to pay for an item the system would have determine if the card has sufficient funds order to effect payment and loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit card to pay for the items the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card.

As per claim 25, Bogosian discloses wherein the step of debiting the payment account corresponding to the user of the electronic auction web site and crediting the at least one account to effect payment for the user of the electronic auction web site, if there are sufficient funds in the payment account corresponding to the user to effect payment, occurs in real-time. ("i. e, automatically") (see column 5 lines 35-55).

As per claim 26, Bogosian fail to explicitly teach further comprising the step of charging interest for loaning funds to effect payment.

However charging interest for loaning funds to effect payment is old ad well known in the art because loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit card to pay for the items the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card and interest is normally charge against the credit card.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Bogosian to include charging interest for loaning funds to effect payment because loans are commonly made to accommodate different transactional needs for the borrower for example when buying items and using a credit card to pay for the items the amount used for the purchase is actually a loan on the credit card and interest is normally charge against the credit card.

As per claim 27, Bogosian discloses wherein the step of debiting comprises the step of retaining, by an operator associated with the electronic auction web site, a percentage.("i. e, "transaction fee") of funds debited from the payment account corresponding to the user.("i. e, buyer") of the electronic auction web site prior to crediting the at least one account. (13 lines 47-57).

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Conclusion

6. The prior art of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicants disclosure.

Martin(US 6,304,860 Patent) teaches automated depth payment system and method using atm network.

Altman (US Patent 5,689,649) teaches system for operation of a combination mortgage equity loan and saving plan .

George (US Patent 5,946,668) teaches system and method for funding a home investment trust.

Lloyd(US Patent 4876648) teaches system and method for implementing and administering a mortgage plan.


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clement B Graham whose telephone number is 703-305-1874. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am to 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hyung S. Sough can be reached on 703-308-0505. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-0040 for regular communications and 703-305-0040 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

CG

September 30, 2004


HYUNG SOUGH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600